

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for draining fluid from a holding tank, the apparatus comprising:

a first portion having an axial bore extending therethrough, the axial bore being defined by an upper end and a lower end,

an outer wall surrounding the axial bore extending from the lower end to the upper end, the upper end adapted to engage an existing drain ~~plug~~ hole of the holding tank such that fluid communication is established between the axial bore and the holding tank;

at least one notch of a predetermined size and configuration to achieve a desired flow, the at least one notch forming an opening within the outer-wall of the bore;

a second portion having a plate member with a plurality of leg members, the lower end of the bore being permanently affixed to the plate member;

and a reservoir surrounding the leg members, the reservoir having a base portion with an external wall extending upward therefrom to surround the leg members, each leg member extending downward into the base portion and being permanently affixed thereto; and the base portion having an aperture for providing an outlet for drainage of the fluid from the holding tank.

2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the at least one notch extends upward to the upper end forming a gap therein.

3. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the external wall ~~having~~ of the reservoir ~~have~~ has a hand gripping mechanism.

4. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the hand gripping

mechanism further comprises a plurality of elevated ridges formed upon the external wall of the reservoir.

5. (original) The device of claim 1 further comprising: the plate member having an underside; a groove within the underside of the plate member, the groove dimensioned to fit a wrench mechanism; and the groove positioned above the aperture of the base portion of the reservoir such that the wrench mechanism can be inserted through the aperture in the reservoir into the groove.

6. (original) The device of claim 1 wherein the plate member further comprises a plurality of small apertures along the peripheral edge of the plate member.

7. (original) The device of claim 1 further comprising: a sealing means dimensioned to accommodate the plate member; and the sealing means extending circumferentially around the plate member.

8. (original) The device of claim 1 wherein the base portion further comprises a thickness that slopes inwardly at an incline from the outer peripheral edges of the base portion towards the aperture.

9. (original) The device of claim 1 wherein the at least one notch extends from the upper end to the lower end of the first portion

10. (currently amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the ~~outer~~external wall of the reservoir has a length dimensioned to allow for maximum ground clearance during the operation of a vehicle.

11. (currently amended) The device of claim 10 the reservoir further comprises a substantially flat bottom side to allow for maximum ground clearance during the operation of a vehicle.